

# Tech, media & popular culture

What's new?



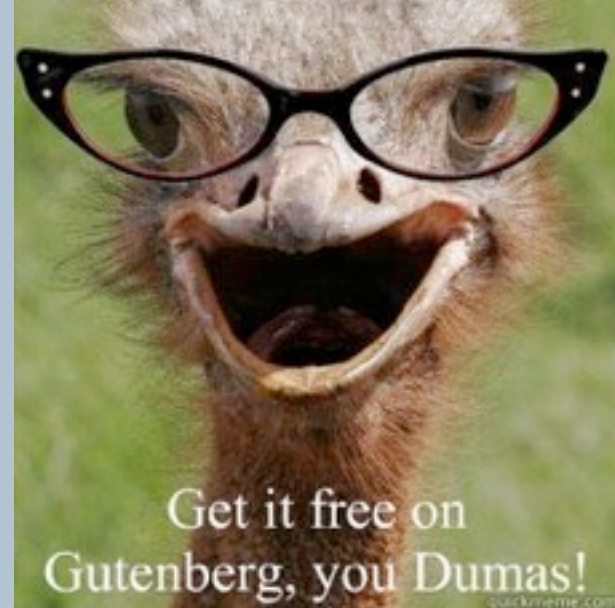
**WHERE'S NON-FICTION?  
SEE THE FICTION SECTION?**



**EVERYWHERE BUT  
THERE.**

quickmeme.com

Buying a copy of The  
Three Musketeers?



Get it free on  
Gutenberg, you Dumas!

quickmeme.com

# Films 2011

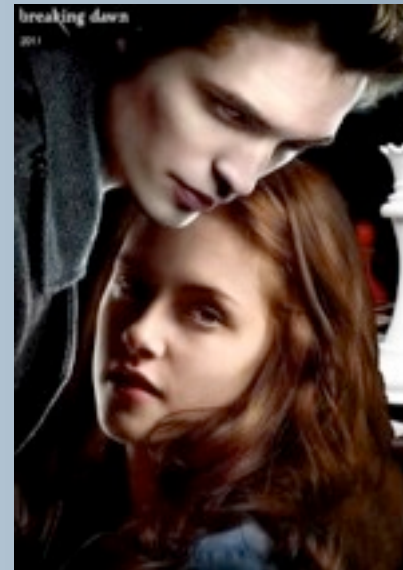
- *I am Number Four* - stars Aussie Callan McAuliffe
- *The way home* – directed by Peter Weir
- *Never let me go* – book by Kazuro Ishiguro; stars Carey Mulligan & Keira Knightley. Dystopian drama.
- *The Great Gatsby*
- Directed by Baz Luhrmann
- Stars Leonardo diCaprio & Carey Mulligan
- To be filmed in Sydney



- *Harry Potter & the deathly hallows - Pt 2* (July 2011)



- *Twilight saga: Breaking dawn - Pt 1* (Nov 2011)



# *At the movies* (ABC) 2010 Viewers' Choice Poll



1. INCEPTION [review »](#)

2. THE SOCIAL NETWORK [review »](#)

3. ANIMAL KINGDOM [review »](#)

4. TOY STORY 3 [review »](#)

5. THE KING'S SPEECH [review »](#)

6. A SINGLE MAN [review »](#)

7. THE HURT LOCKER [review »](#)

8. UP IN THE AIR [review »](#)

9. KICK-ASS [review »](#)

10. THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON  
TATTOO [review »](#)

11 SCOTT PILGRIM VS. THE WORLD

12 HUTTER ISLAND

13 THE GHOST WRITER

14 HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY  
HALLOWS: PART 1

15 THE ROAD

16 WINTER'S BONE

17 THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT

18 BOY

19 HE FANTASTIC MR. FOX

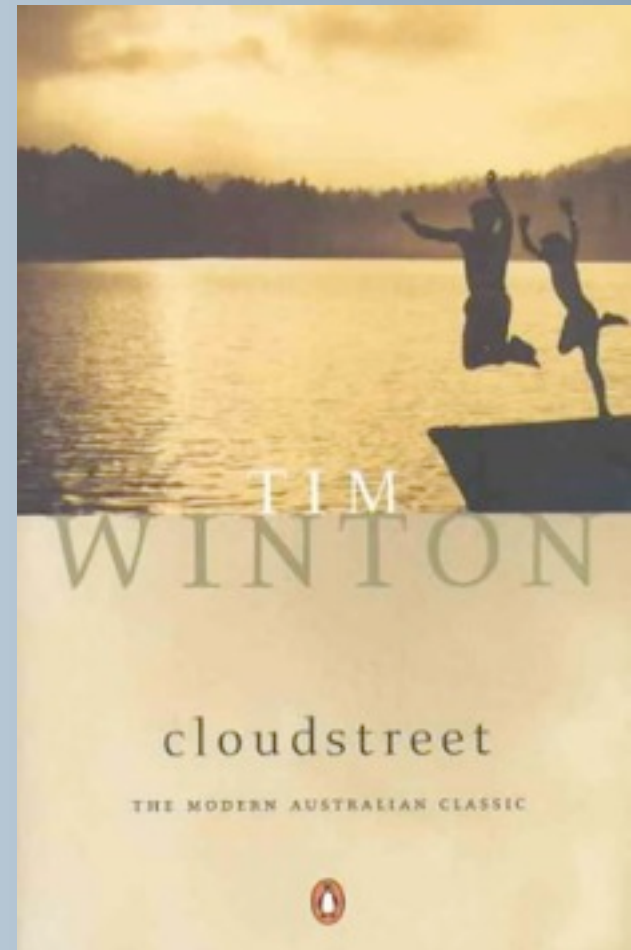
20 BRAN NUE DAE

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<http://www.abc.net.au/atthemovies/viewerspoll/>

# *Cloudstreet* – the mini series

- Screenplay by Tim Winton
- Directed by Matthew Saville
- Stars Stephen Curry & Geoff Morrell
- Airing on Foxtel Showtime in March





# ABC TV

- *Angry boys* – written by & starring Chris Lilley
- A new set of characters that explore the angst, anger & anticipation of being a young boy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Joint production with HBO & BBC



# ABC TV

- *The slap* – based on the book by Christos Tsiolkas; 8 part series; 4 directors (including Matthew Saville & Robert Connolly)
- *Top of the lake* – directed by Jane Campion; 6 part mystery





# ABC TV

- *Redfern now* - first contemporary TV drama series written, directed & produced by indigenous Australians
- Lawrence Leung – more quirky adventures



# News & current affairs

- 7.30 (ABC) – now presented by Leigh Sales & Chris Uhlmann
- 6pm - with *George Negus* (Ch. 10) – low ratings. Will it last?
- *Dateline* (SBS) – new hosts Yalda Hakim & Mark Davis; more stories from reporter working alone with a camera
- 7pm *Project* (Ch. 10) – Increased ratings; popular with younger people; an easy yet informative way to learn about the news



# Return of The hungry beast 😊

- ABC Wed 23 March at 9.30pm
- 12 parts themed around issues:  
Captivity, Secrets, Waste,  
Faking it, Download ....
- Topical issues with a fresh  
perspective
- Nominated for AFI & Walkley  
Awards in 2010
- 2<sup>nd</sup> most watched program on  
ABC in 2010 for 18-39 year olds



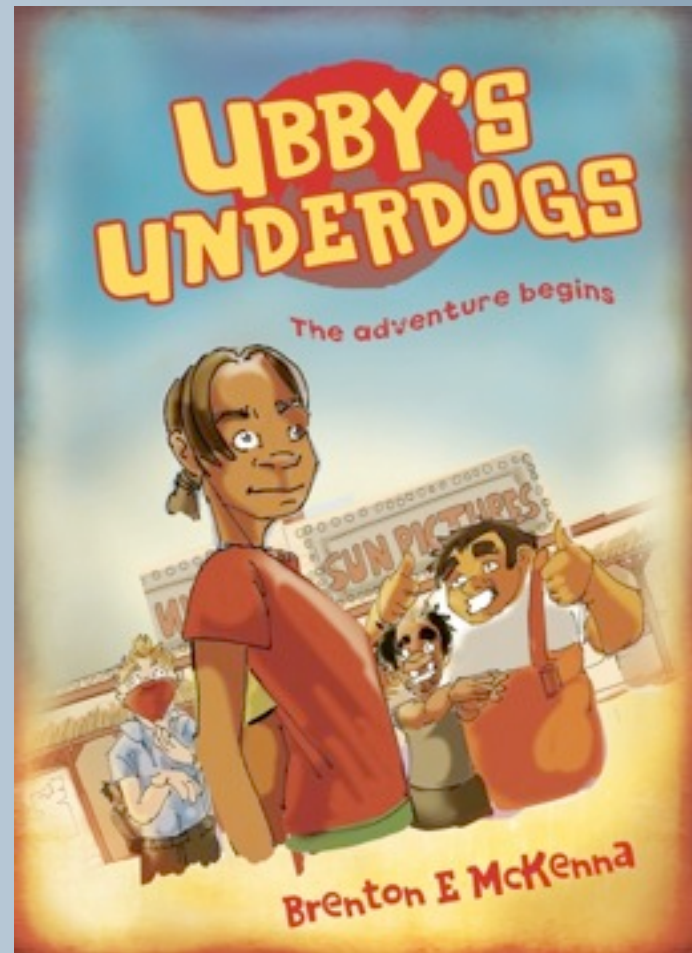
# Games & variety shows



- *Good news week*  
Host: Paul McDermott (Ch.10)
- *Talking 'bout your generation*  
Host: Shaun Micallef (Ch.10)
- *Adam Hills Live in Gordon St tonight*
- *The Hamish & Andy show*  
Comedy show starting on Channel 9.

# Books

- John Bell – on Shakespeare
- Alice Pung – sequel to memoir *Unpolished gem*
- Julian Assange's memoir (later in 2011)
- *The most dangerous man in the world* – biography of Assange by Andrew Fowler
- Kate Grenville – 3<sup>rd</sup> book in the historic Sydney trilogy
- Geraldine Brooks – *Caleb's crossing*



# More books

- Matthew Reilly – *Scarecrow & the army of thieves*
- Andrew McGahan – *The coming of the whirlpool: Ship King Book 1*
- Margaret Wild & Andrew Yeo - *Vampyre*
- Cassandra Clare – *City of fallen angels* (Bk 4 in series)
- Jack Heath (go Jack!) – *Dead man running*
- Margo Lanagan – new novel
- Anthony Horowitz – *Scorpia rising* – final book in the Alex Rider series



# No secrets

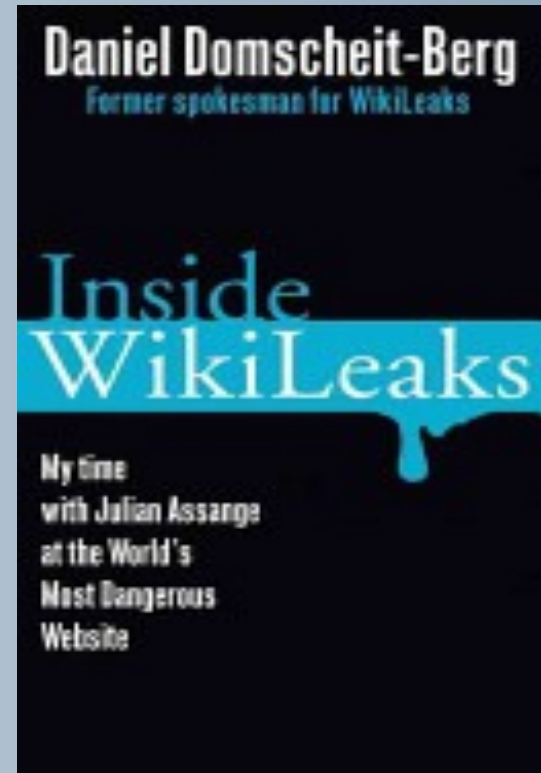
Julian Assange & Wikileaks -  
an "uncensorable system for  
untraceable mass document  
leaking"



- Assange named as Readers' Choice for Time magazine's Person of the Year in 2010
- Amnesty International's UK Media Award 2009 awarded to Wikileaks
- No longer a user-editable wiki
- International non-profit organisation that publishes submissions of private, secret, and classified media from anonymous news sources and news leaks
- Begun Oct 2006
- Steven Spielberg has bought rights to the Wikileaks saga (4/3/11)

# Openleaks

- Begun 2010 by Daniel Domscheit-Berg – former spokesman for Wikileaks
- A fairer way to whistleblow?



# Huffington Post

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/>

- The internet newspaper: news, blogs, video, community
- A progressive US news website & content aggregating blog
- Founded by Arianna Huffington et al in 2005
- Over 3000 bloggers
- Acquired by AOL in Feb 2011



# Newsy

<http://www.newsy.com/>

- Multisource video news analysis
- CNN next to Al Jazeera, the BBC next to ABC (US)
- Also covers major newspapers, news magazines & top blogs from around the world.

# WatchKnow

<http://www.watchknow.org/>

- “Videos for students to learn from. Organized.”!
- Begun by Larry Sanger (co-founder Wikipedia)
- Over 23 000 available.....50 000 by the end of 2011
- Educators select videos for inclusion, review them & put them in categories using a wiki framework
- For ages 3 – 18 years





# Movieclips

<http://movieclips.com/>

- Totally legal!!
- One of Time magazine's Top 50 websites 2010
- Browse, watch, search, share
- Search for actor, movie, director or dialogue



# The neverending search

- Google changes search algorithm to ensure people see high quality search results (28 Feb 2011; USA so far)
- The update lowers rankings for **content farms** – sites which produce content for various topics but don't add much in-depth value; their aim is to get advertising revenue
- Google will reward sites with "original content and information such as research, in-depth reports, thoughtful analysis and so on".
- Winners so far: Library of Congress; Facebook; Encyc. Britannica, some newspaper & media sites, AOL
- Google Chrome extension - Blocklist – users block spam in their search results

# Google vehicles



Google's self driving car –  
200 000 miles without  
mishap!



Google trike – takes photos for  
Streetview where the Google car  
can't go. No.....he doesn't sell ice  
creams.

# Google search features

## Don't forget the **Left Menu**

- Realtime results (mostly from Twitter)
- Blogs
- Timeline
- News – Top stories – Add a section (eg. Sci/Tech, Sports, Health etc)

## Don't forget the **Advanced Search** option:

- Select Reading level (basic, int., adv, annotated)
- Date, usage rights etc (free to use or share etc)

# New domain names

- IPv4 - allows  $2^{32}$  (4,294,967,296) addresses
- IPv6 – allows  $2^{128}$  (340 undecillion) addresses . That's 1 with 36 zeros after it.
- Allows for many more devices and users on the internet as well as extra flexibility in allocating addresses and efficiency for routing traffic
- On June 8, 2011 the Internet Society together with several other big companies and organizations will hold [World IPv6 Day](#), a global 24 hour test of IPv6

# New competition for .com

- New sites will have subject-specific suffixes

.eco

.love

.god

.islam

.sport

.gay

- Will the web be more intuitive?
- Will it be more cluttered?
- Who gets .amazon?
- Send your proposals to ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names & Numbers) - \$185 000 to apply and \$25 000 p.a. fee



**Dunno what happnd**

**We dint touch it**

# 202 million addresses so far...

- Currently 21 generic domains (.com, .net, .edu, .org etc) & hundreds for countries (.au etc)
- .com & .net account for half of all web addresses
- Controversial domains will be assessed before approval
- Companies will be given priority eg. IBM will get .ibm
- Municipalities will be given priority eg. .paris or .nyc

*Canberra Times*, 14/2/11

# ISP cleared!

- 34 movie studios headed by Village Roadshow lost its appeal against the Federal Court judgment that ruled iiNet was not responsible for illegal movie & TV downloads
- Michael Malone (iiNet): “.....we don’t believe we authorised or did anything to encourage customers to breach copyright.”
- He believes there needs to be more clarity on what is expected of carriage services providers in terms of copyright laws ie. government regulations
- Aust. Federation Against Copyright Theft (AFACT): iiNet had admitted many copyright infringements

*(Daily Telegraph, 25/2/11)*

# Filters, censoring & blocking

- Will the NBN ever be used as a back-door internet filter?
- Labor launches voluntary ISP-level filtering due to start July 2011; Telstra & Optus opt in
- Wikileaks blocked at all major US govt depts
- Denial of service (DoS) attacks & threats to Wikileaks domain name
- Pres. Mubarak in Egypt – tried to limit internet connections; outsiders helped the people get online



This domain name has been seized by ICE - Homeland Security Investigations, pursuant to a seizure warrant issued by a United States District Court under the authority of 18 U.S.C. §§ 981 and 2323.

*Willful copyright infringement is a federal crime that carries penalties for first time offenders of up to five years in federal prison, a \$250,000 fine, forfeiture and restitution (17 U.S.C § 506, 18 U.S.C. § 2319). Intentionally and knowingly trafficking in counterfeit goods is a federal crime that carries penalties for first time offenders of up to ten years in federal prison, a \$2,000,000 fine, forfeiture and restitution (18 U.S.C. § 2320).*

# Torrent (file sharing) sites

- US departments of Justice & Homeland Security have been “seizing” the domain names of torrent sites & replacing their front pages with bald eagle symbols & legal warnings
- US has control of .com & .org internet registry
- The sites still function but lose their domain name server, thus breaking many search queries & linking functions
- Bram Cohen, inventor of BitTorrent, has invented a new torrenting system:  
A user uploads a file & it will stream across the internet in real time.
- This new torrent technology will not be trackable
- Nothing will be secret

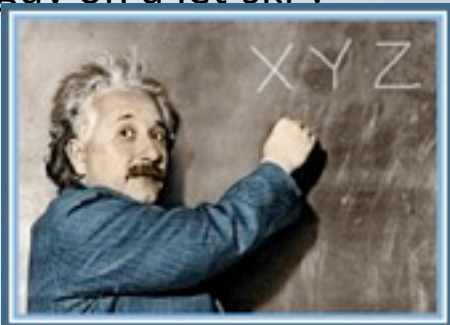
Myles Peterson, *Canberra Times*, 14/2/11



# Is the internet making us dumber?

## Nicholas Carr: *The shallows* (2010):

- The internet is rewiring our brains, changing our approach to reading, ideas & concentrated work even when we are away from the computer
- The ease of online searching & browsing has affected our ability to concentrate
- “Once I was a scuba diver in the sea of words. Now I zip along the surface like a guy on a jet-ski”.



## Steven Pinker: “Brain gain”, *Cosmos*, Feb/Mar 2011:

- Knowledge is increasing exponentially; human brainpower & waking hours are not
- BUT...the internet & info technologies are helping us manage, search & retrieve our intellectual output
- “Far from making us stupid, these technologies are the only things that will keep us smart.”

# Multitasking is a

- Multitasking is really “swaptasking” – an inefficient way of using the brain
- Excessive swaptasking results in deteriorated performance because the neocortex becomes exhausted (A. Fraser)
- “The computer is the root of all multitasking evil” (A.J.Jacobs)



- Unitasking (monotasking) is much better for productivity, happiness, stress reduction.....
- Try shutting out distractions & work on one task for 30 minutes, perhaps wearing earplugs

White, S. 2011, “Multitasking taken to task”, *SMH*, 15 Jan.

(

# Horizon Report 2011

- Game-based learning – Jane McGonigal (TED talk) (2 to 3 year adoption horizon)
- Gesture-based computing – SixthSense; Kinect Hacks; John Underkoffler (TED talk) (4 to 5 year adoption horizon)

Interesting videos:

[KinectHacks.net](http://KinectHacks.net)



# Booko

- Booko is a site with a very simple goal - to find the cheapest place to buy books & DVDs in Australia.
- Booko is not an online shop. It goes out to the internet and looks up book & DVD prices and figures out the shipping costs. For the international sites like the Amazons (.com and .co.uk), the prices are converted into Aussie dollars.

# Who's your googleganger?

- Macquarie Dictionary Word of the Year 2010

= a person with the same name as yourself, whose online references are mixed up with yours when you search for your name

- Honourable mention – vuvuzela (from the Zulu – to make a noise)
- People's choice – shockumentary – a documentary featuring violence, accidents or revealing secrets of organisations
- Camel case – as iPod & iPhone
- Flying cane toad – a pigeon
- Self-gift – to give yourself a gift
- Pocket-dial – ever sat on your mobile phone?

# Googlegangers!

Jenny Craig the weight loss business owner & Daniel Craig aka James Bond  
- pictured here with their Googlegangers, married couple Jenny & Daniel Craig!



- American Dialect Society WOTY 2010 = app
- Runner-up =

